

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress
1st Session

Vote No. 341

July 28, 1995, 10:54 a.m.
Page S-10855 Temp. Record

GIFT BAN/Judicial Gift Rules

SUBJECT: Congressional Gift Ban . . . S. 1061. Byrd amendment No. 1878 to the McCain modified substitute amendment No. 1872.

ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 75-23

SYNOPSIS: As introduced, S. 1061, a resolution to provide for congressional gift reform, will amend the standing rules of the Senate to limit the receipt of gifts by Members and congressional employees. Gifts and exemptions are defined, restrictions will be placed on reimbursement for travel and lodging costs, and special limits will be placed on gifts by lobbyists.

The McCain modified substitute amendment would enact compromise provisions which would amend the Senate's rules only and which would largely parallel the gift rules that apply to the executive branch.

The Byrd amendment would express the sense of the Senate that the Judicial Conference of the United States should review and reevaluate its regulations pertaining to the acceptance of gifts and the acceptance of travel and travel-related expenses and that such regulations should cover all judicial branch employees, including members and employees of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Those favoring the amendment contended:

The Byrd amendment would urge the Judicial Conference to review its gift rules. Like the legislative branch, the judicial branch of Government cannot afford to be seen in the eyes of the public as anything less than impartial and unbiased. We are not saying that judges are influenced by free trips, free lunches, or other gifts any more than we are saying that Members are influenced by such gifts. We are instead saying that the perception of influence is automatically created. Just as people lose faith in the integrity of Members who take gifts from special interests, they lose faith in the impartiality of judges who accept gifts from people who have cases before them. A democracy cannot remain strong if its citizens do not think that its judges represent them equally. Therefore, we have offered this amendment, which we urge Members to accept.

(See other side)

YEAS (75)				NAYS (23)		NOT VOTING (2)	
Republican (35 or 67%)		Democrats (40 or 87%)		Republicans (17 or 33%)	Democrats (6 or 13%)	Republicans (2)	Democrats (0)
Abraham	Hutchison	Akaka	Kennedy	Brown	Biden	Inhofe- ²	
Ashcroft	Jeffords	Baucus	Kerrey	Chafee	Bingaman	Murkowski- ²	
Bennett	Kyl	Boxer	Kerry	Cochran	Feinstein		
Bond	Lott	Bradley	Kohl	Craig	Graham		
Burns	Lugar	Breaux	Lautenberg	D'Amato	Heflin		
Campbell	McCain	Bryan	Leahy	Domenici	Moynihan		
Coats	McConnell	Bumpers	Levin	Gorton			
Cohen	Nickles	Byrd	Lieberman	Gramm			
Coverdell	Pressler	Conrad	Mikulski	Grams			
DeWine	Shelby	Daschle	Moseley-Braun	Hatch			
Dole	Simpson	Dodd	Murray	Kassebaum			
Faircloth	Smith	Dorgan	Nunn	Kempthorne			
Frist	Snowe	Exon	Pell	Mack			
Grassley	Specter	Feingold	Pryor	Packwood			
Gregg	Stevens	Ford	Reid	Roth			
Hatfield	Thomas	Glenn	Robb	Santorum			
Helms	Thurmond	Harkin	Rockefeller	Thompson			
	Warner	Hollings	Sarbanes				
		Inouye	Simon				
		Johnston	Wellstone				

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

1—Official Business
2—Necessarily Absent
3—Illness
4—Other

SYMBOLS:

AY—Announced Yea
AN—Announced Nay
PY—Paired Yea
PN—Paired Nay

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.